

crop experts of the Department of Agriculture. They are the most interesting of more than a hundred and seventy things brought by Professor Hansen from Siberia, though others worthy of mention here are a number of durum wheats; remarkable winter muskmelons (some of them weighing 30 to 40 pounds and capable of keeping all winter, promising possibilities for the Southwest); the Persian clover shaftal or "Shabdar" (No. 24548), now being tried for the irrigated Southwest; and sand binders (Nos. 24555, 24556, 24557, 24558, and 24559) used along the Transcaspian Railway.

Numbers 24759 to 24761 represent the largest importation of bamboo plants ever brought into the country, comprising more than 3,000 good-sized plants of the three timber species that are grown so extensively in Japan—two of them for timber and one also for its edible shoots. These were purchased by an agent from the Japanese farmers near Nagasaki and brought over by the courtesy of the War Department on an army transport. They have made a satisfactory start at Chico, Cal., and will be planted in the South and in California this autumn. An effort will be made to show what a wonderfully beautiful thing a bamboo grove is, and to bring this unique timber material near enough so that our experimenters can study the methods of its utilization in the fresh state.

Of the introductions secured through correspondence, special attention should be called to the following:

Of interest to the fruit growers will be the three Javanese fruits—the Doekoe (No. 24431), the Ramboetan (No. 25163), and the Poelasan (No. 25164)—delicious East Indian fruits that seem to have not yet attracted attention in the West Indies; a South China relative of the orange (*Atalantia bilocularis*) for breeding purposes; the Indian bael fruit (No. 24450), which is prized for sherbets by Occidentals, but esteemed as highly as the orange by the East Indians, and its near relative from the Philippines, *Belou glutinosa* (No. 24591), both of which Mr. Swingle suggests should be used in breeding new types of citrus fruits; the edible passion fruit of Mexico, a much neglected fruit possibility for the Southwest; *Diospyros ebenaster*, the Zapote Prieto of Mexico (No. 24600), a relative of the persimmon; a new fine-flavored mango, with fruit the size of an English walnut, from Tahiti; strains of the Chilean strawberry (Nos. 24654–24656); five varieties of Chilean anonas (Nos. 24661–24665); the Legrellei pomegranate (No. 24825) from Switzerland, an unusually hardy form which matures its fruit in Paris; a collection of valuable pomegranates from Bagdad, Arabia (Nos. 25001–25007); two southern China peaches from Canton (Nos. 24915–24916); the cherry stock used by the Japanese and upon which they bench-graft all their ornamental flowering cherries and which seems not to have been tried for a stock for our fruiting cherries (No.